

REMARKS

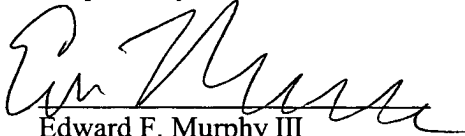
Claim 15 has been objected to because of an informality. As shown in the attached amendment to claim 15, the informality has been corrected.

Claims 1,4, 6, 15, 17, 18, 22-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959). Claims 9, 10, 11, 12, and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being obvious over Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959). Claims 20 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being obvious over Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) in view of Hodgson et al (US Patent 5,174,552). In all of these rejections Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) is the basis for rejecting all of the pending independent claims. In this Final Rejection, it is stated that Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) shows a “load bearing member comprised of a molding bonded load bearing member outer resilient member 11 bonded to an inner rigid member 7”. This is incorrect and clearly a mis-statement of fact. A complete reading of Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) clearly shows that the outer resilient member rubber ring 11 is not bonded to the inner rigid tapered member 7. At Column 1, Lines 23-24 Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) discloses that “the said rubber ring will roll between the two members”. At Column 2, Lines 24-26 Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) discloses that “In conformity with the invention, a rubber ring 5 having a circular cross-section is mounted between the members 1 and 2”. At Column 2, Lines 31-35 Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) discloses that “If a load P is applied to the tapered member 1, the rubber ring 5 will roll between the tapered faces which are brought nearer together, and is compressed while undergoing elastic deformation.” At Column 3, Lines 6-11 Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) discloses that “Between the two tapered parts are mounted the respective rubber rings 11 and 12, one of which, and chiefly the ring 11, dampens the load, whilst the other, the ring 12, supports the reaction stresses in an elastic manner.” Additionally at the ends of both Claims 4 and 5, Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) claims that the elastic material rings are “adapted

to roll freely in both axial directions for relative displacements between said members." The load bearing member outer resilient member elastic material rubber ring 11 is not bonded to the inner rigid tapered member 7 in Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959), in that the rubber ring 11 is adapted to roll along the inner rigid tapered member 7. In that all of the rejections of the pending claims are based on a misstatement of fact in that the rubber rings of Schroedter (US Patent 2,179,959) are not bonded to the inner rigid tapered members, the rejections of the pending claims must be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance in that the claimed invention is not anticipated or rendered obvious by the prior art of record.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ed Murphy III", written over a horizontal line.

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